DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 479 849 SO 034 545

AUTHOR	Hamilton, Neil A.
TITLE	American Social Leaders and Activists. American Biographies.
ISBN	ISBN-0-8160-4535-6
PUB DATE	2002-00-00
NOTE	447p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Facts on File, Inc., 132 West 31st Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10001 ($65). Tel: 800-322-8755, ext. 228 (Toll Free); Fax: 800-678-3633 (Toll Free); e-mail: CustServ@factsonfile.com; Web site: http://factsonfile.com/.
PUB TYPE	Reference Materials - Vocabularies/Classifications (134)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available From EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	*Activism; *Biographies; Elementary Secondary Education; *Leadership; Reference Materials; *Social Action; Social Change; Social Studies; United States History
IDENTIFIERS	Biodata; Reform Efforts

ABSTRACT

This book recounts the efforts of a diverse and representative group of the most significant, prominent, controversial, and interesting U.S. men and women to have attempted to change society from colonial times to the present. The book offers a broad view of reform and reformers, with 285+ entries on individuals who challenged, if not always successfully, the established social norms of their day. It finds that abolitionists, socialists, communists, temperance crusaders, women's suffragists, peace advocates, civil rights workers, labor organizers, and other social reformers and activists have shaped society for the generations that followed them. Profiles in the book are arranged alphabetically, beginning with Jane Addams and concluding with Roy Wilkins. The book contains an introduction, a general bibliography, two subject indexes that list entries by area of activity and year of birth, a comprehensive index, and 55+ photographs depicting these remarkable, diverse individuals. (BT)

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